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Applicants: Shoji Miyazaki et al.
Appl. No.: 09/889,243
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REMARKS

Claims 45-76 are pending in the subject application. By this Amendment, claims 45, 46 and 66 have been amended to clarify the subject invention. Support for the amendments to the claims can be found in the previous version of the claims. Applicants maintain that the amendments to the claims do not raise an issue of new matter. Accordingly, entry of the amendments is respectfully requested.

The present amendments are being made further to May 5, 2004 and May 11, 2004 telephone conversations between Examiner Alexander Noguerola and the undersigned attorney. The Examiner indicated that the pending claims are clear of prior art, that minor amendments to the language of claims 45, 46, and 66 were required in order to place those claims in condition for allowance, and that the remaining pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy of his telephone call and his recommendations regarding claim amendments. Applicants have hereinabove amended claims 45, 46, and 66 further to suggestions made by the Examiner. Accordingly, passage of the pending claims to allowance is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the submission of this Supplemental Amendment. However, if any fee is required to maintain the pendency of the subject application, authorization is hereby given to withdraw the amount of any such fee from Deposit Account No. 01-1785.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 11, 2004
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By


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